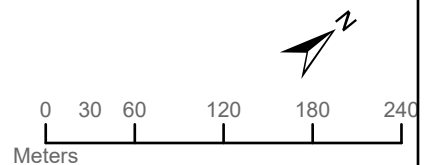


# Natural Areas System

2024 NATURAL AREAS UPDATE

## SITE CL52

- NATURAL AREAS
- VEGETATION COMMUNITIES
- SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS
- LINKAGES



## CL52

CLASSIFICATION <b>Significant Natural Area</b>	Park Name <b>Meadowwood Park</b>	PLANNING DISTRICT <b>Clarkson-Lorne Park</b>	AREA (Ha) <b>8.93</b>
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY <b>CVC</b>	SUBWATERSHED <b>Lakeside Creek</b>	OWNERSHIP <b>Private/Municipal</b>	SURROUNDING LAND USE <b>Residential / Industrial</b>

### GENERAL SUMMARY

South of Orr Road and west of Meadow Wood Road. The natural area CL9 is located within 500 m to the east. The natural areas CL1 and SD5 are linked to this site. This site is also linked to a number of natural areas by the Lake Ontario shoreline.

This site is largely privately owned by with some woodland extending onto Meadowwood Park property.

### PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

The topography of this site is primarily level with some human-made berms. Bedrock geology of the site consists of grey shales of the Georgian Bay Formation. These are buried by up to 7.5 m of soils and glacial deposits. The soil consists of imperfectly drained Brady sand loam developed over thin Halton till deposits over a shale plain. This site is part of the Lakeside Creek sub-watershed.

### CONDITION

This site is currently in fair condition. Disturbances include a few unplanned trails, horticultural plant species, invasive species, noise pollution, Emerald Ash Borer (*Agilus planipennis*), and a small amount of garbage. Surrounding land use is residential and industrial.

Invasive plant species present at this site include Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*), European Buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*), Garlic Mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*), Phragmites (*Phragmites australis* ssp. *australis*), and Coltsfoot (*Tussilago farfara*).

### ECOLOGICAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

#### Number of Plant Communities

Three vegetation communities are present at this site (see accompanying figure); mixed plantation ecosite (CUP2), mineral shallow marsh (MAS2), and treed beach / bar (BBT1).

#### Significant Plant Communities

There are no Significant Plant Communities in CL52.

### SPECIES RICHNESS

#### Flora

There are 153 flora species documented for this site. The native FQI is 28.10 and the native mean coefficient is 3.22, both low values. Both the native FQI and the native mean coefficient have decreased from previous values of 28.71 and 3.32, respectively. There have been 56 introduced flora species recorded at this site, representing 50.3% of the total flora species present.

One provincially significant flora species has been documented from this site.

Six locally significant flora species have been documented at this site.

Twenty Credit Valley Conservation flora species of Conservation Concern (Tier 1-3) have been documented at this site.

#### Fauna

There are a total of 51 fauna species documented for this site: 43 bird, 5 mammal, 2 amphibian and /or reptile, and 1 odonata or lepidoptera species.

One provincially significant fauna species has been documented at this site.

Twenty-six Credit Valley Conservation fauna species of Conservation Concern (Tier 1-3) have been documented at this site.

## **MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. The City park, Meadowwood Park, is included within this natural area.
2. Removal of Norway maple saplings is recommended.
3. Removal of non-native shrubs and forbs is recommended.
4. Under-planting using native hardwood tree species is recommended.
5. Cooperation with Mississauga Lubricants Centre in regard to land management is recommended.

## **REFERENCES**

City of Mississauga (1978b)

## **ECOLOGICAL LAND CLASSIFICATION**

### Mixed Plantation Ecosite (CUP2)

This site consists of a narrow strip of vegetation between the residences in the east and the refinery in the west. The canopy is dominated by planted Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*), hybrid willow (*Salix x rubens*), Silver Maple (*Acer saccharinum*), Trembling Aspen (*Populus tremuloides*), and planted Scot's Pine (*Pinus sylvestris*). Canopy trees are 10-25 m in height and cover greater than 60% of the community. The sub-canopy predominantly contains White Ash (*Fraxinus americana*), Manitoba Maple (*Acer negundo*), and Staghorn Sumac (*Rhus typhina*). Sub-canopy trees are 2-10 m in height and cover 10-25% of the community. The understory contains a variety of shrubs including Tartarian Honeysuckle (*Lonicera tatarica*), European Buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*), Ninebark (*Physocarpus opulifolius*), and Riverbank Grape (*Vitis riparia*). Understory vegetation is 1-2 m in height and covers 25-60% of the community. The ground layer contains an abundance of Garlic Mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*) as well as old field species such as Canada Goldenrod (*Solidago canadensis*), Virginia Creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*), Wild Carrot (*Daucus carota*), Common Burdock (*Arctium minus*), Wood Avens (*Geum urbanum*), and Wild Cucumber (*Echinocystis lobata*). Ground layer vegetation is 0.2-0.5 m in height and covers greater than 60% of the community.

### Mineral Shallow Marsh (MAS2)

The Mineral Shallow Marsh community occurs in the southern portion of the site near to Lake Ontario. Canopy trees (less than 10% cover; >25 m tall) occurring around the edge of the community include Freeman's Maple (*Acer x freemanii*) with a sub-canopy (less than 10% cover; 10-25 m tall) of Manitoba Maple. The understory layer (35-60% cover; 1-2 m tall) is comprised of cattail (*Typha* spp.), Phragmites and Reed Canary Grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*). A ground cover layer (10-25% cover; < 1 m tall) includes Spotted Touch-me-not (*Impatiens capensis*) and Purple Loosestrife (*Lythrum*

*salicaria*). Some open water is present in the middle of the community. Due to a lack of site access, aquatic vegetation below the surface is unknown.

### Treed Beach/Bar (BBT1)

The Treed Beach (BBT1) present on site includes a canopy (10-25% cover; 10-25 m tall) of Crack Willow (*Salix euxina*), Manitoba Maple, Norway Maple, and Eastern Cottonwood (*Populus deltoides*). Riverbank Grape, Virginia Creeper, and Red-osier Dogwood (*Cornus sericea*) occur as the sub canopy layer (<10% cover; 2-10 m tall) draped from canopy trees. American Bittersweet (*Celastrus scandens*), and alders (*Alnus* spp.) make up a shrub layer that is 1-2 m in height and 10-25% cover. Ground cover is sparse with Rough Cocklebur (*Xanthium strumarium*) covering less than 10%.

This community is fenced off and only surveyed from the edge.